

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Woodbine Man Admits to Committing Armed
Robbery of Econo Lodge

(More)

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CAMDEN – A Woodbine man pleaded guilty today to a federal charge of armed robbery, admitting he and his deceased father committed an armed robbery of an Econo Lodge in Egg Harbor Township, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Patrick Reed-Price, 20, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Robert B. Kugler to a one-count Information that charges him using and brandishing a firearm during the robbery. Judge Kugler continued the defendant's detention and scheduled sentencing for March 3.

At his plea hearing, Reed-Price admitted that on June 20, 2008, he and his late father, James Price, were driven by a friend to the Shore Mall in Egg Harbor Township. While at the mall, Price stole a maroon Chevy Camaro, Reed-Price admitted. The father and son then drove to the Econo Lodge on the Black Horse Pike and watched the activity at the Econo Lodge hotel, Reed-Price admitted.

Eventually, the father and son decided to rob the hotel and left to get their "robbery bag," which contained two firearms, masks and gloves, Reed-Price admitted. After retrieving the items, they returned to the hotel in the stolen Camaro and entered the hotel while brandishing the firearms, according to the Reed-Price. Once inside, Reed-Price admitted, they both jumped over the counter and demanded to know where the "money envelope" was located. The two employees were ordered into the office and tied up with the phone cord, according to Reed-Price.

Reed-Price admitted that they fled the hotel with approximately \$982 and drove down the Garden State Parkway and abandoned the stolen vehicle in an area of Route 47 near Leesburg State Prison.

According a criminal Complaint that charged Reed-Price, Price was arrested on Aug. 29, 2008, by the N.J. State Police on unrelated charges. After waiving his Miranda warnings, Price was interviewed by law enforcement officers and stated that he and his son had robbed the Econo Lodge, according to the Complaint.

The charge to which Reed-Price pleaded guilty carries a maximum statutory penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

In determining an actual sentence, Judge Kugler will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Fishman credited Special Agents of the FBI's Atlantic City Resident Agency, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Weysan Dun, Troopers with the N.J. State Police, under the direction of Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes, Superintendent, and Police Officers with the Egg Harbor Township Police Department, under the direction of Chief Blaze Catania, with the investigation leading to the guilty plea.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason M. Richardson of the Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense Attorney: Christopher O'Malley, Esq. Assistant Federal Public Defender